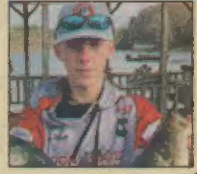


CC Arts Alliance
event set for
Jan. 16th in
Enterprise



tourney at Lay
Lake



Elba alum
receiving honors
for college hoops



The Elba Clipper

Volume 123, Number 33

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, January 9, 2020

1 Section, 8 Pages

New Brockton Town Council votes to hire new part-time building inspector

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The New Brockton Town Council met Monday night, Jan. 6, and voted unanimously to hire a building inspector for the town.

Mayor Kathy Holley said she had someone interested in working part-time as the town's building inspector. She said this person already is a code enforcement officer.

Holley said the prospect was looking at approximately 30-hours per week at a pay rate of \$15-16 per hour. She said he had worked previously with the City of Elba.

Council member Courtney Campbell made a motion with a second from council member Shirley Eads to hire this person to be the town new building inspector. All council member voted in favor of the motion.

Council members also voted to hire someone to fill a vacancy within the street department. The mayor indicated it had been recommended that the town utilize prisoners to help the street department until grass cutting season; however, council members felt they wanted to go ahead and get that position filled.

The motion approved by the council was to hire someone at \$9 per hour for 30-hours per week.

The council approved a resolution allowing for the state's removal of the flashing traffic lights at the intersection of highways 122

See TOWN, Page 3

EVENT POSTPONED!

The Elba Recreation Department announced this week the Magic of Nutrition Expo previously scheduled for Saturday, January 11, has been postponed due to a severe weather threat for this Saturday.

Rec officials said the new date for the event now will be Saturday, Feb. 22nd. More details will be available prior to the event.

Enterprise selected as site for new veterans home in Alabama

On Friday, Jan. 3, the Alabama State Board of Veterans Affairs (SBVA) selected a site in Enterprise, Ala. as the location for a new state veterans home.

In early 2018, the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVA) hired Public Consulting Group, Inc. (PCG) to conduct a feasibility study for the long-term veteran healthcare needs in the state. The PCG study projected that 1,440 veterans would require a skilled-care bed by 2045.

Currently, there are 704 beds in Alabama's four veterans homes. The maximum number of state veterans home beds is based on 38 CFR § 59.40 (which sets Alabama's maximum beds at 1,007). In addition, the study showed that the projected demand for skilled-care among Alabama veterans will continue to significantly exceed the total number of beds currently provided through the state veterans home program.

Based on the study's findings, PCG identified the Wiregrass Region as an underserved area for providing skilled-care exclusively for veterans. The consulting firm recommended locating a 150-175 skilled-care bed facility in the region, which includes Barbour, Butler, Coffee, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston and Pike counties.

In October 2018, the SBVA unanimously voted to proceed with a plan to build a fifth state veterans home and subsequently gave the board's Veterans Home Committee the authority to recommend to the board a site for the new home.

The Veterans Homes

Committee reviewed 12 site proposals submitted by jurisdictions in the Wiregrass Region based on five factors—favorability of the plot of land proposed; transportation accessibility; workforce availability; specialized healthcare services within proximity of the site; and additional factors identified by the proposer.

The committee met last Friday morning and voted to recommend Enterprise as the site for the new veterans home to the SBVA. The SBVA convened its quarterly meeting later this afternoon and unanimously voted to accept the Veterans Homes Committee's recommendation.

The location for this new home consists of a donation of 108 acres between US Hwy 84 and AL Hwy 167. Coffee County was identified as having the largest veteran population projections in the Feasibility Study, while other counties show a reduction in the veteran population. Enterprise has a workforce to support the home as well as medical services available to support the needs of the veterans.

"This was a difficult selection process, as many communities submitted excellent proposals for the new veterans home. We are excited about this project, as this location will give access to many underserved veterans," Chad Richmond, SBVA vice-chairman, said. "The committee team worked diligently and fairly through this process, and I'm confident that our selection of Enterprise will provide the setting and care our veterans deserve."

The new veterans home should open by 2023.

Miss Elba Pageants set for Saturday, Feb. 29th

Information meeting set for Wednesday evening, Jan. 15th

The 2020 Miss Elba Pageants are just around the corner!

Registration packets will be available as of Friday, Jan. 10, at Elba City Hall, Elba High School, and Elba Elementary School, and a "Meet and Greet" information meeting is set for Wednesday, Jan. 15, from 5-6 p.m. at the Elba Chamber of Commerce office, located on Putnam Street in downtown Elba.

The 2020 Miss Elba Pageants will be Saturday, Feb. 29th.

The registration fee is \$35. All contestants Kindergarten and Up must attend or have graduated from Elba City Schools.

The age divisions include Future Little Miss [Age 3 - Kindergarten]; Little Miss [Age 1st Grade]; Petite Miss [Age 2nd & 3rd Grades]; Young Miss [Age 4th-6th Grades]; Teen Miss [7th and 8th Grades];

Junior Miss [9th and 10th Grades]; and Miss Elba [Age 11th Grade (or 17 by Oct. 1) - Age 21].



The current Miss Elba queens will relinquish their reign Saturday, Feb. 29th.



A TWO CAR COLLISION SHORTLY BEFORE 8:00 P.M. MONDAY EVENING, JAN. 6, on the 203 Bypass, near Dollar General in Elba caused heavy damage to both vehicles and sent one driver to the hospital with undetermined injuries. The accident happened as a pick-up truck, driven by LaVaughan Carpenter, slowed when a car in front of him signaled a turn into the Dollar General parking lot. The SUV (shown above), driven by Larry Davis, failed to stop and collided into the rear of Carpenter's truck. Both vehicles left the road and the SUV had to be towed. Carpenter was able to drive his truck from the scene, even with the clearly visible heavy damage to the rear end and the broken rear window and damaged toolbox. Davis was taken to a local hospital emergency room, but Carpenter received no visible injuries and declined the offer for transportation to the hospital. Agencies responding to the wreck were the Elba police, fire department and Haynes Ambulance Service. The accident is under investigation by the Elba Police Department.

Two New Brockton police officers recognized for excellent service

by Linda Hodge, Editor

New Brockton Police Chief Dale Grimes recognized two officers Monday night, Jan. 6, during the

New Brockton Town Council meeting for their excellent work in finding a missing [runaway] juvenile last month and returning her home safely.

Chief Grimes said the teenage girl was reported missing the night of Dec. 19, 2019. He said it was determined the girl had run away from home.

The following morning, he said investigation on the case was turned over to officers Zachary Neitsh and Joshua Sullivant.

Chief Grimes said when this young lady ran away the department had zero evidence to regarding her whereabouts. He said she had even left a false Florida address behind in an attempt to hide her true location.

With very little to go on, he said the officers worked diligently to find her. Because of that, he said the girl was located the following afternoon, Dec. 20, and she was returned home safely.

Grimes said a small piece of evidence indicating the girl had gotten into a vehicle in the Utility Trailers parking lot in Enterprise was the only information the officers had to go on to locate this young girl. That piece of evidence and the officers' dedication to finding the girl all paid off, Chief Grimes said.

During Monday night's council meeting, Grimes publicly recognized Officer Neitsh and Officer Sullivant with certificates of excellence for their "hard work and outstanding job performance on the return of a runaway juvenile within 24 hours."

Council members also thanked the officers for their dedication to the job.

Also during the meeting, Chief Grimes gave monthly statistics on the department's activity for December. He noted activity from citations written by officers as well as the number of warnings issued by police.

Grimes also noted several active cases of criminal activity the department had investigated over the month. Other than the runaway juvenile investigation, the chief did not specifically discuss any of the other cases other than noting they had been handled by the officers within his department.

For the most part, he said activity was fairly routine.



New Brockton Police Chief Dale Grimes (right) presents Officer Zachary Neitsh with a Certificate of Excellence for his work in locating and returning a runaway juvenile home last month. Also presented a certificate in this case was Officer Joshua Sullivant (shown in photo inset). Sullivant was unable to attend Monday's council meeting.

Area Happenings

COFFEE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT will hold its monthly board meeting Thursday, Jan. 9, at the Coffee County Commission Room, 1065 E. McKinnon Street, New Brockton, AL 36351. The meeting will start at 9 a.m.

THE CITY OF ELBA OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED Monday, Jan. 20, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The garbage truck will run its normal schedule. There will be standby crews available for any utility emergencies that may occur during this time. To report a utility emergency when City Hall is closed, call the Elba Police Department at (334) 897-2555.

THE JANUARY MEETING FOR THE DAV WIRE-GRASS CHAPTER 92 located in New Brockton, Ala. will be Thursday, Jan. 23, at 6 p.m. The meeting will take place in the New Brockton Senior Center. For further information contact Charles Lobdell at (334) 718-5707.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

"Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man." — Benjamin Franklin

As a lifelong member of the Methodist Church, we were a bit shocked late last week with the announcement that the Church was seriously considering a split of the organization. What actually happened was a group of 16 bishops and other Church leaders met and announced their idea for the future (or end) of the United Methodist Church. Such things make great headlines in the news, until you read the fine print and find it is not the Church speaking, only a self-appointed group of members. That is like 16 folks in Elba deciding it is best for the United States capitol to be moved to Chicago or somewhere in California. There would be some who supported such a move but getting it done is another thing. The root issue within the Methodist Church is how to officially handle inclusion (or not) of LGBTQ persons. There are strong feelings on all sides of this matter . . . with many of the debaters forgetting their Christianity when discussing the issues involved. Oh, and they all quote some passage or another from the Bible to 'prove' their point. Our personal feeling is this can be handled without literally dividing into two different churches. To be more direct . . . we are offended that so-called dedicated "leaders" of the denomination would even consider such a proposal. It is a cop out! Dividing any organization only makes both groups weaker than when all members are marching in the same parade. Now a much harsher comment - "we suggest that these 16 get on their knees and discuss this matter - with God and 'Pray Without Ceasing'".

We are clueless as just who is the mythical leading candidate for the open seat for Alabama's 2nd District Congressional seat in the U. S. House of Representatives. However, candidate Jeff Coleman's name is being mentioned more and more. Now he has received the endorsement of the Alabama Farmer's Federation's political arm, FarmPAC. That is not tantamount to election, but it has got to help his cause. We thought it was catchy when he included in a recent TV ad that he would help Donald Trump's cause with illegal immigrants by using his trucking firm's tractors and trailers to haul the illegal folks back to Mexico. Now that will not happen, but it kept folks talking.

Coffee County has a candidate in that race also. Former State Representative Barry Moore and his wife have done several very folksy videos. It was also surprising when he announced he was the ONLY military veteran in the race! We are accustomed to often being the youngest veteran (at 81) in groups at church, etc., so this should not have surprised us, but it did. Having served in the military didn't automatically make either of us a qualified candidate for public office but it does establish a bond that could never exist between either of us and that draft dodger down the street. The same could be adapted to the FarmPAC endorsement. Farmers will not blindly follow the endorsements from their political advisors, but it is better to have this endorsement as a recommendation than someone else have it.

Column Submitted by R.A. Mathews

The New Year is here! One of the greatest discoveries of last year promises hope to millions in 2020.

He's identified only as Thibault—a strikingly handsome, 30-year-old. Four years ago, Thibault fell nearly 50 feet, paralyzing his arms and legs.

But, last year, surgeons cut into Thibault's skull and placed two implants on his brain. What happened? Thibault walked!

According to the BBC, Thibault's actual brain waves controlled an astronaut-like suit he wore. Incidentally, Thibault likened his steps to those of Neil Armstrong's on the moon because of the same slow, awkward movements.

The Reeve Foundation states that in America alone there are over a million paraplegics with spinal cord injuries. Some may have turned from God, but not Christian author Joni Eareckson Tada. She hasn't used her hands or legs for 52 years, not since a diving accident at age 17. Despite her adversity, she has always trusted God.

Consider also the Hebrew slaves of Scripture. Why? You'll soon see.

Let's start when the Hebrews are free. The first book of the Bible has 50 chapters. Thirty-eight deal

with a father, son, and grandson: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Read their story and you'll understand most of Genesis.

We call them the patriarchs—essentially the founding fathers. They more or less live in the Promised Land, present-day Israel.

How then do God's people end up as slaves in Egypt?

Because of the famous coat of many colors. Seriously.

Jacob is tricked into a marriage he doesn't want. But he loves his second wife, and her two boys become Jacob's favorites.

Jacob gives that coat to Joseph, one of the two. His jealous brothers then snap and sell Joseph to a caravan headed for Egypt.

But Joseph can decipher dreams. He warns Pharaoh of a terrible famine that's coming, and Pharaoh makes Joseph second-in-command of the nation. When the famine spreads to present-day Israel, Joseph ultimately brings his father, brothers, and their families to comfortable lives in Egypt.

Generations pass and Joseph is forgotten. The Egyptians begin to fear God's people and force them into slavery. Here's what the Hebrews do with adversity: They cry out to God. Great idea! The Lord sends Moses

with one miracle after another until Pharaoh lets the Hebrews go.

But Pharaoh quickly regrets that decision, taking his army and following them. This is when God parts the Red Sea, allowing His people to walk through on dry land and closing the water on the Egyptians, who wash up dead on the shore. Seeing this, Scripture says, "The people feared the Lord and believed..." Exodus 14:26-31

Three days into the wilderness, the Hebrews face hardship. Within 45 days, God's people wish they were back in Egypt. It's an amazing turn of events.

They recall that time warmly saying, "When we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread." Exodus 15:22, 16:3

God had heard their cries—their terrible life of slavery. And God had granted miracle after miracle to set them free. But they don't remember it that way.

There's more adversity in the wilderness, and God's people quarrel with Moses, speaking the unthinkable:

"Is the Lord among us or not?" they ask. Exodus 17:2-6

What? As I've said many times, why didn't someone shout, "The Red Sea parted!"

But the biggest of the Hebrews' miracles is forgotten. This can happen today.

Scripture warns us: "Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." Romans 12:2

Read your Bible daily and remember God's ancient miracles. But God also grants modern-day miracles. You know this. Write yours down and read them often.

Stay close to God: Talk to Him throughout the day, repent, and repeat His promises:

"I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Isaiah 43:19

"I know the plans I have for you...plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

This is indeed the year of the paraplegic—God has brought hope to millions who cannot walk or even lift a glass of water.

But this is also your year. Whatever 2020 brings, no matter the hardship or fear, remember this:

God is with you.

Copyright © 2020 R.A. Mathews The Rev. Mathews is a faith columnist, attorney, and the author of "Reaching to God." Write to her at Letters @RAMathews.com

ATTEND THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY!!

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, between Monday, Dec. 30, and Sunday, Jan. 5, made the following arrests: one for trespassing, three on failure to appear warrants, and one for possession of narcotics.

There were one traffic citation and four traffic warnings [verbal and written] issued by Elba Police officers during the timeframe of Dec. 30th – Jan. 5th.

MONDAY, DEC. 30 – Officers met with a complainant in the lobby of the police department in reference to check fraud (7:55 a.m.); Officers met with a complainant in area of Reynolds in reference to animals barking nonstop (9:28 a.m.); Officers met with a complainant in area of Morrow Ave in reference to theft (4:38 p.m.); Officers met with a complainant in area of Hwy 203 in reference to an unwanted guest (9:31 p.m.).

TUESDAY, DEC. 31 –

Officers responded to the area of Adkinson in reference to a two-vehicle accident (2:57 p.m.); Officers responded to area of Jackson Ave in reference to a physical altercation (7:34 p.m.); Officers responded to area of Winston Ave in reference to loud noises (11:09 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 1 – Officers checked the area of Stoudemire for reports of gunshots—determined to be fireworks (12:06 a.m.); Officers responded to area of Stoudemire and Reynolds for two small grass fires possibly set by fireworks (11:42 a.m.); Report of a reckless driver in excess of 95 mph coming into Elba on Hwy 87 S – officers were unable to locate the vehicle (2:55 p.m.); Officers responded to area of Guyton St in reference to an

unwanted guest – subject agreed to leave (8:29 p.m.); Suspicious person reported coming up on a porch on Taylor Mill Rd appearing to be upset – officers assisted this person (11:01 p.m.).

THURSDAY, JAN. 2 – Officers responded to a residence on Guyton St in reference to a suspicious person – one subject was arrested (11:34 a.m.); Officers responded to a residence on Morrow Ave in reference to a verbal domestic violence incident (4:01 p.m.).

FRIDAY, JAN. 3 – Officers out with a vehicle in area of Smith Ave just south of County Rd 239 – vehicle had struck a deer and wrecker service requested (4:45 a.m.); Officers responded to area of County Rd 410 near Old Samson Rd in reference to cattle in the roadway (6:39 p.m.);

Officers responded to a residence in area of Elm Ave in reference to report of a possible missing person – subject had returned to residence when officers arrived – EMS was requested to evaluate the subject and subsequently transported to an area hospital for further evaluation (10:27 p.m.).

SATURDAY, JAN. 4 – Officers responded to area of Ann St in reference to a suspicious subject knocking on windows (9:32 a.m.); Officers met with a complainant in area of the country club in reference to trash dumping (5:30 p.m.); Officers responded to area of Forest Lake Dr in reference to a suspicious vehicle (9:27 p.m.); Officers responded to area of Jackson Ave in reference to an altercation (9:34 p.m.); Officers met with a complainant in area of Roosevelt in reference to an unwanted guest – subject advised to leave the area (10:31 p.m.).

SUNDAY, JAN. 5 – Officers out with county deputies on Hwy 84 at County Rd 501 in reference to a vehicle accident – vehicle hit a donkey (2:21 a.m.); Officers responded to a residence on Reynolds Ave in reference to a male subject showing out and being unruly towards family (9:37 a.m.); Officers responded to a two-vehicle accident on Oak Ave (3:43 p.m.); Officers met with a subject in the lobby of the police department stating he had been attacked by a neighbor's dog – the animal control officer was contacted and he said he would follow up the next date (4:04 p.m.); Officers responded to a residence on Brunson Circle in reference to a suspicious person in the residence without permission to be there – officers found the back door open to the residence but had no contact with the subject (10:53 p.m.).

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Obituaries

Death notices updated regularly on our website at <www.elba-clipper.com>

AGNES O'BRIEN

Mrs. Agnes O'Brien, age 89, of Enterprise, Ala., died Sunday Dec. 29, 2019.

Funeral services were held Jan. 4, 2020 at Sorrells Funeral Home Chapel, Enterprise, with Eddie Creel officiating. A private burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery, Elba. In lieu of flowers contributions can be made to the American Heart Association.

Agnes was born in Alabama to the late James Wilson Franklin and Susie Smith Franklin.

She is preceded in death by her parents; brother, William Paul Franklin; son, William Michael Creel; and grandson, Patrick Creel.

Survivors include her daughters: Linda Herring, Elba, Glenda Bennett, Clay, NY; sons: Eddie Creel (Kitty), Beaufort, SC, Scott O'Brien, Syracuse, NY; grandchildren: Denise Boyd, Elba, Tina Ramer, Opp, Ala., Dennis Seabrook and Scott Ramer, both of Luverne, Ala., Rich Bennett and Randall Bennett, both of Clay, NY, Heather O'Brien, Kaglee Obrien, and Scott O'Brien, all of Syracuse, NY; many great-grandchildren and great great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Jan. 4, 2020 from Sorrells Funeral Home Chapel, Enterprise, with Reverend Richard Collier and Reverend Mack

King officiating. Burial followed at Hillcrest Gardens Cemetery.

Lisa was born to the late Robert Steve Hines and Retha Mae Flowers Hines. She was a member of the Whitewater Baptist Church. She was employed by Wayne's Farms.

Survivors include her daughter: Nikki Fuller Hunter (Chris), New Brockton, Ala.; sister: Teresa Bridges (Pete), Elba; grandchildren: Taylor Lynn Hunter and Harper Leigh Hunter; nephew: Gavin (Chelsea) Mauldin; niece: Amanda Mauldin; great-nieces: Cora and Faris Mauldin; great-nephew: Jack Farmer; and numerous cousins and other family members.

RAYMOND CAPERS

Mr. Raymond Capers, age 73, of Opp, Ala., died Dec. 6, 2019 at Mizell Memorial Hospital.

Funeral services were held Dec. 28, 2019, at Adams Street Church of Christ with Coleman Funeral Home of Enterprise directing.

Raymond was born in the town of Mt. Pleasant, Charleston County, South Carolina to the parents of Susan Simmons-Vanderhorst and Edward T. Capers on November 24, 1946.

Raymond entered the

United States Marine Corps on October 11, 1966. During this period of service Raymond served combat duty to Vietnam and received medals, decorations, and campaign ribbons. On August 31, 1971 he was honorably discharged from active duty. Raymond briefly attended college on the west coast and played with a semi-pro basketball league. On August 21, 1974 he joined the United States Army and was sent to the Republic of Vietnam for the second time, and he returned home with recognitions of numerous Army commendation medals and awards.

Raymond went on to Drill Sergeant School, Advanced Leadership Training School, German Headstart to learn the language, as well as Army pre-commission courses. He retired from active military service on December 31, 1992 after serving over 22 years.

He was preceded in death by four siblings, Rheba, Elizabeth, Jake, and Edward.

Survivors include his wife: May Beatrice Borders-Capers; one sister: Lydia Capers-Boyce (John); son: Lester Charles Hayes (Maylon-Tina); mother-in-law: Lula Borders; two grandchildren: seven great-grandchildren; four sisters-in-law: Elizabeth Gordan, Christine Stanford (Willie), Shirleen Mason (Charles), Brenda Jiles (Fred); three brothers-in-law: William (Alice), Eddie Roy (Bertha), and Charles (Anna Marie) Borders; along with a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and other family and friends.

WADE RAY STINSON

Mr. Wade Ray Stinson, age 62, of Jack, Ala., died Wednesday, January 1, 2020 at Flowers Hospital in Dothan.

Funeral services were held Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020, at Skeen Funeral Home Chapel in Troy with Rev. Mack King and Brother Dale Morgan officiating. Burial followed in Chestnut Grove Cemetery.

He was born September 14, 1957 in Troy, Ala.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Willie and Calvin Stinson and Joel and Julia Knotts; uncles, Mervin Stinson, Wallace Knotts, Curtis Knotts, Lamar Knotts, J.P. Knotts, and Douglas Knotts; and aunts, Frances Boutwell, Dorris Whitehead and Dorothy.

Survivors include his parents: Ray and Nellie Stinson, Jack; son: Vlad Stinson, Jack; aunts and uncles: Shirley and Hayward Legg, Jerry and Melinda Stinson, all of Jack;

cousins: Lisa and Ralph Johnson, Zachary and Seth Legg, all of Jack; Johnny and Lisa Knotts, Brundidge; Jimmy and Janet Whitehead, Millbrook; Gail Wynn, Lance Jones, Lee Jones, and Summer Jones, all of Phenix City; and special friends: Kathy Allen, Troy and Fred Knighten.

Memorials may be made to Chestnut Grove Cemetery Fund, 27811 Hwy 167, Jack, AL 34346.

BETTY JEAN JONES KENDRICK

Mrs. Betty Jean Jones Kendrick, age 77, of Opp, Ala., died Saturday, Jan. 4, 2020, at her home.

Funeral services were held Jan. 7, 2020 from the Wyatt Funeral Home Chapel with Shaun Moore and Ben Praytor officiating. Burial followed in Beulah Cemetery with Wyatt Funeral Home of Opp directing.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jerry Kendrick; parents, Kathryn Jenette Bryan Jones & Lonnie Alfred Jones; sister, Willodean Thrash; brothers, J.D. Jones & Doris, Winston Jones and Mike Jones; and brothers-in-law, Billy Hawthorne and Bill Foley.

Survivors include her daughters and sons-in-law: Tammy Blue & Bill, Patti Brown & Kenny and Tina Blair & Toby; grandchildren: Courtney Blue, Morgan Blue, Payton Brown, Kennedy Brown, Kannon Brown and Ryan Blair; brother & sister-in-law: Wayne Jones & Barbara; sisters: Carmaletha Hawthorne and Lera Ellison & Wilburn; brother-in-law: Milton Thrash; sisters-in-law: Faye Jones, Doris Jones and Ann Foley; and numerous nieces & nephews.

DOROTHY ANN JOHNSON

Mrs. Dorothy Ann Johnson, age 56, of Elba, Ala., died Saturday, January 4, 2020.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 8, 2020, at Goodman Assembly of God Church with Rev. Huey Anderson officiating. Burial followed at the church cemetery with Pittman Funeral Home of Samson directing.

Dorothy was born in Opp, Ala. on April 15, 1963, to the late Allen and Zaidie Bryant Johnson. She was preceded in death by two sisters, Cassie Ann Bryant and Betty Jean Knowles; and two brothers, Charlie Johnson and Jerry Johnson.

Survivors include her husband: Quinton Boutwell; Elba; two sons: Chad

Boutwell (Jessica) and Richard Boutwell (Katie), all of New Brockton; five grandchildren: Nevaeh Boutwell, Robert Boutwell, Gabe Boutwell, Cayden Boutwell, and Easton Boutwell; five brothers: Dock Johnson (Brenda), Mack Johnson (Ann), Fred Johnson, all of Elba, Pete Johnson, Opp, Michael Wayne Johnson (Tracy), Elba; and a sister: Peggy Mac Johnson, Elba.

JO ANN COPPAGE CANTRELL

Mrs. Jo Ann Coppage Cantrell, age 82, of Keithville, La., died on Friday, December 27, 2019.

Jo Ann was born April 5, 1937 to Ben Marion Coppage and Louise Fuller Coppage in Elba, Ala.

A celebration of life occurred on Tuesday, December 31, 2019 at Centuries Memorial Funeral Home, Shreveport, La. Pallbearers were Bob Colvard, Billy Coppage, Ricky Coppage, and Randy Sasser. Serving as honorary pallbearer was Ben Earl Coppage.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond E. Cantrell; parents, Ben and Louise Coppage; sister, Betty Sasser; and grandson, Chad Harvill.

Survivors include her daughter: Carol Thomas and husband Rodney; granddaughter: Chelsea Cox and husband Josh; and great-granddaughter: Jo-leigh Elizabeth Cox; brothers: Ben Earl Coppage and wife Becky, Billy Coppage and wife Faye, Ricky Coppage and wife Gloria; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Learn the difference between need and want

A big step to financial security is learning the difference between a need and a want, according to KHEAA-Alabama.

Students who learn that difference will find their bank accounts grow more quickly.

Needs include clothes, food and, for many students, transportation. With clothes, a want may mean wearing only designer items that cost more than clothes that last just as long and look just as

good.

Students might want to eat a deluxe cheeseburger at a fast food restaurant every day, even though they can save money by making their own sandwich and brown-bagging it.

Before making a purchase, students should ask themselves if they can get by with a less expensive item — or without that item completely. They should save the money they don't spend so it's there when they really need something.

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Trusted Choice

There's no one way to express grief, and no single path through bereavement.

If you would like a free funeral decisions guide, please email me at hayesfh@hayesfuneralhome.net

431 East Davis Elba, Alabama 36323 (334) 897-2225

with. Doing so will prevent you from getting angry and making a mistake. Continuous good practice will change the skeptics' viewpoint as long as you don't get caught in a trap you set for yourself along the way.

It is also important to realize that a slip doesn't have to be a fall. If you feel you are going to make a wrong decision or reverted to drug use, get in contact with a counselor or a local support group to get your recovery back on track. Information on local meetings and rehabilitation services can be found on addicted.org.

Sincerely, Marcel Gemme

SHARE YOUR VIEWS... WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

As we start the New Year, many will be making a resolution to start a life of sobriety. Whether you are just out of rehab or have been in recovery for a while, you mustn't feed into skepticism from family and friends. As an addiction professional, one of the most common excuses I hear from people who start using again is that "everyone thought I was using, so I did." People use the accusation of using drugs as a justification for relapsing and fall victim to their past.

For those with a long history of drug abuse, it is natural that your loved ones are going to assume you've used something. People operate off patterns and past conduct. Even though realizing that your past behavior created these allegations is tough to come to terms

TOWN

(Continued from Page One)

and 302 in downtown New Brockton to be replaced with a flashing beacon at the now 4-way stop.

Also during Monday night's meeting, council members voted to place to surplus vehicles on Gov-Deals.com for sale. These include a Ford Ranger pickup and old Senior Center bus.

In presenting the town's monthly financials, town clerk Debbie Andrews noted the balance on a loan the town has had with Troy Bank and Trust for 20+ years. She said the last statement for that loan showed the balance at \$7,152.19, and she said she paid an additional \$2,500 on the loan earlier in the day Monday.

Andrews recommended the town get a pay-off amount from Troy Bank and Trust for this loan for the council to vote on paying at the next council meeting. She said it would be great to have this loan finally off the town's books after some 20+ years.

Council members approved a motion for Andrews to get a pay-off on that loan.

The mayor noted that town offices would be closed Monday, Jan. 20, in observance of Martin Luther King Day. Also, the town will conduct its annual Martin Luther King Day memorial celebration on the 20th beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the old Warren B Smith School. This will be followed by a march of remembrance from the school to Greater Springfield Missionary Baptist Church where a service will begin at 11 a.m.

The council's next work session will be Monday, Jan. 27, at 6 p.m. and the next council meeting will be Monday, Feb. 3, at 6 p.m.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Raymond E. Cantrell; parents, Ben and Louise Coppage; sister, Betty Sasser; and grandson, Chad Harvill.

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CHURCH NEWS

Reflections

GUEST COLUMN BY MICHAEL J. BROOKS

The Church And Cell Phones

Years ago when home visits were more common, I remember countless visits for the church when I competed with blaring televisions. One training program many of us took in the day suggested trying to sit between the person and the television, or saying, "I'm interrupting your program—can I come back later?" Now, of course, a viewer can click "pause" or "record" and not miss anything.

But we have new competition today—the cell phone. Stats say 96 percent of Americans own one. No one is ready to return to the wall phone or the party line, but it's sad that common courtesy is often elusive.

Public schools have instituted cell phone policies. For example, one local high school decrees cell phones mustn't be visible in class unless teachers give permission for research. And for good reason. We've seen the diminishing of verbal skills among our youth. It was announced lately that for the first time Americans communicate more online than face-to-face. Research shows people are prone to be more direct, often angrier and less grammatically precise online than in person. In this way, online communication can be like an anonymous survey. Another open question is how the present generation will fare in job interviews if unskilled in interpersonal communication and good eye contact.

Many churches have instituted policies, too, posting announcements in their programs about turning off electronic devices or asking ministers to request this. Funeral directors make this request also before services in their chapels. I conducted a funeral last year in which an attendee's phone rang three separate times before he got the idea to switch it off.

However, cell phone use is hard to police in churches. Many use cell phones as their scripture, enjoying 30 or more translations and larger font with a single click. But it's wrong to frivolously text or visit Facebook while hymns of praise are sung, and the word of God proclaimed. Remember the nursery rhyme about the pussycat who "went to London-town to see the queen," but ended up chasing a mouse instead? Priorities askew.

Recently I visited with a lady recuperating in the hospital from a very serious illness. While she told me about what she'd faced and how God brought her through, one of her adult children never looked up from her phone. As I prepared to offer prayer I wondered if I should, for the first time ever, ask the daughter to put her phone away so we could pray. It reminded me of the times we used to say, "Can we turn the television off so we can pray together?"

Cell phones are wonderful tools, but like other tools, must be used courteously and responsibly.

Reflections is a weekly devotional column written by Michael J. Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church in Alabama. The church's website is siluriabaptist.com.

CCBA to host Widow's Ministry Meeting on Monday evening, Feb. 3, in New Brockton

The Coffee County Baptist Association will host its next Widow's Ministry Meeting on Monday evening, Feb. 3, at 6:30 p.m. at the CCBA Center.

State Missionary Doug Rogers will be sharing Life Lessons from Mayberry.

If planning to attend, RSVP by January 27th with the CCBA office at (334) 894-6411.

Matrons and Missionary Day planned for this Sunday, Jan. 12th, at Greater Springfield Missionary Baptist Church

Greater Springfield Missionary Baptist Church, New Brockton, will host Matrons and Missionary Day on Sunday, Jan. 12, at 2:30 p.m.

The guest speaker will be Rev. Johnny Foster, pastor of Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Brundidge, Ala.

All are invited to attend.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration set for Saturday, Jan. 18, at Mulberry District Association Building in Elba

There will be a Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration at the Mulberry District Association Building, located on Hwy 84 W, Elba, Ala., on Saturday, Jan. 18, at 4 p.m.

Special guest speaker will be Rev. Richard Davis, pastor of Little Bethel Missionary Baptist Church, Vinegar Bend, Ala.

Special music will be presented by the Greater Springfield Missionary Baptist Church Choir, New Brockton, Ala.

The public and local church congregations are invited to attend.

Greater Springfield Missionary Baptist Church set to host Monday, Jan. 20th, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

Greater Springfield Missionary Baptist Church, New Brockton, will host the 26th Annual celebration honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Legacy on Monday, Jan. 20, at 11 a.m.

The keynote speaker will be Rev. J.C. Fryer, pastor of Pine Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Phenix City, Ala.

All are invited to attend.

Annual Choir Day set for Jan. 26th at Greater Saint Matthew AME Church

Greater Saint Matthew A.M.E. Church, 365 E. Mill Ave., Brantley, Ala., will host its Annual Choir Day event on Sunday, Jan. 26, at 2:30 p.m.

Everyone is invited to attend this event. Pastor is James R. Levert.

CCBA to host Deacon Training on Jan. 31st

The Coffee County Baptist Association will host a Deacon Training on Friday, Jan. 31, from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at Goodman Baptist Church.

Rev. Tommy Weems will be leading this training session.

Church deacons are encouraged to make plans to attend.

ACTS Ministries to host youth conference at end of month

On Jan. 30th - Feb. 1st, ACTS Ministries will host an Evangelistic/Prophetic Youth Conference. Services for January 30th and 31st will begin at 7 PM. The service on February 1st will begin at 6 PM.

The guest speakers will be Co-Pastor Lois Russell (30th) and Pastor Tirrell Glover (31st). The ACTS Ministries Youth Pastor,

Elder Rodrick Caldwell, will be honored on February 1st.

All church youth are invited.

Church News is Due on Mondays!

Round and About With Eria's Daughter



Scripture: A Prayer of Faith in Time of Distress [Psalm 6: 1-10]

Thinking of You! Praying for You.

Dea. J.L. Williams, Alice Musgrove, Betty Refreege, Shirley Coleman, Shanika Pruitt, James Edwards, Mittie B. Edwards, Mary Sue Dawson, Beatrice Belcher

January Birthdays / Anniversaries

Alzie M. Davis 1/21 (in memory)
Eugene (Notchie) Smith 1/21
Alex M Hutchinson 1/22
Kashaundra Hardwick 1/22
Cool Breeze 1/22
Steve Williams 1/22
Faye Manning 1/22
Marcus Hutchinson 1/23 (in memory)
Kendal Culver 1/25
Yvonne White Jones 1/25
Schoochie Crittenden 1/26 (in memory)
Kikko Logan 1/26
Randy Caldwell 1/26

**** Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Brundidge, Ala.** [Tarentum Community] will host the annual mission-minded women's conference on Saturday, Jan. 11, at 10 a.m. There will be two speakers: Min. Virginia Glover and Sis. Samantha Williams. The theme is "Building on a Solid Foundation"

** Relationship

Some folks just don't get it. These days folks are trying to build things that cast, things with permanence and significance. I am not speaking of houses, bridges, or skyscrapers. People are trying to build relationships that are meaningful and lasting. Too often, folks try to build something permanent without the most important piece...the cornerstone. There is a piece without which the structure will be

forever unstable. There is a piece without which a relationship will be shaky. There is a piece without which a personal commitment will be subject to collapse at any time.

That piece is Jesus. All our relationships whether with our boss, our spouse, our parents, children, or simply with friends and neighbors will be stronger with Jesus as the chief ingredient. He is the sure foundation.

Question / Answer Section Q/A for the Week of 1/2/2020

Q: Manasseh was 55 years old when he became King and he reigned for 12 years.
A: False [read 2nd Chronicles 33:1]

Q: The King of Bablon whom God sent to punish Judah and Jerusalem was Alexander the Great.
A: False [read Jeremiah 25:9]

Thought to Remember

Eviction Notice
Where: Eden
Who: Adam / Eve
Convicted and Evicted

Your Invited

Where: Heaven
Who: You
Provided and Invited

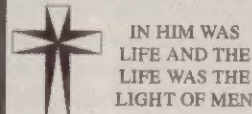
Question for the Week of 1/9/2020

Q: Who became King of Judah when he was 8 years old and reigned for 31 years?

Today is a good day! Be grateful.
Eria's Daughter, Sue

Attend the Church of Your Choice This and Every Sunday!

Church Directory



IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN

ABOUNDING GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Rockey Pearce, Pastor
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.

ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH SAMSON, Ala.

Richard Thorn Sr., Pastor
Morn. Worship ... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Night Service ... 7:00 p.m.

ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service ... 7:00 p.m.

BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH

Sam Self, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service ... 6:30 p.m.

BETHELEME CHURCH

Rev. Deborah A. Butler, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:00 p.m.

BETHELEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Class ... 6:30 p.m.

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Greg Cotter, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Disciple Train ... 5:30 p.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:30 p.m.

BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

Tom Senn, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service ... 6:30 p.m.

COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH

Diana White, Pastor
Bible Study ... 9:00 a.m.
Fellowship ... 9:45 a.m.
Worship ... 10:00 a.m.

DAMASCUS BAPT. CHURCH

Steve Watson, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service ... 7:00 p.m.

DORCAS BAPTIST CHURCH

Dale Morgan, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Discipleship Training ... 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wed. 7:00 p.m.

EAON BAPTIST CHURCH

Mark Ward, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:15 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF CHRIST

Phillip Box, Minister
Bible Study ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:30 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD

David Noble, Pastor
Morn. Worship ... 10:45 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 5:00 p.m.

ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY

H.L. Buckner, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Night ... 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. Night ... 7:00 p.m.

ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE

Allen Richards, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 7:00 p.m.

EVANGELIST TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

Timothy Williams, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:30 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:00 p.m.

FAIRVIEW BAPT CHURCH

Garry Winstead, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting ... 7:00 p.m.

FAITH CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

Phillip Adeock, Pastor
Sunday Morning ... 10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service ... 7:00 p.m.

1st ASSEMBLY OF GOD - KINSTON

Danny Bradshaw, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 7:00 p.m.

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH

Scott Donaldson, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service ... 6:30 p.m.

FRIENDSHIP HOLINESS CHURCH

Edward E. Drake, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening ... 5:00 p.m.

GODS POWER HOUSE EVANGELISTIC CHURCH

Overseers - Bro Billy Berry
Sat. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Sun. Service ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 4:00 p.m.

GREATER NEW ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

Wille L. Peterson, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.

INO ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Wesley D. Ard, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting ... 6:30 p.m.

INO BAPTIST CHURCH

Garry Winstead, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meeting ... 7:00 p.m.

JACK ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Matthew Morris, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service ... 7:15 p.m.

KINSTON 1st BAPT CHURCH

Ben Posey, Pastor
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.

LIVING WOOD CHURCH

Derrick Stinson, Pastor
Saturday Service ... 9:45 a.m.
Sunday Service ... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Youth Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. Service ... 6:00 p.m.

LIBERTY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Greg Hancey, Minister
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.

LOVE'S WAY CHURCH

Charles Jones, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 7:00 p.m.

MT. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

J. R. Parks, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Bib. Stud. Wed. ... 6:30 p.m.

Cathedral of the Holy Spirit NEW ABUNDANT LIFE DEL.

Linda Williams, Pastor
Sunday ... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Even. ... 7:30 p.m.

NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST - ENTERPRISE

W. K. Ellison, Pastor
Morning Worship ... 9:00 a.m.
Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday Evening ... 7:00 p.m.
Friday Evening ... 7:00 p.m.

NEWBIA BAPTIST CHURCH

Will Jordan, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Disciple Train ... 5:00 p.m.
Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Services ... 7:00 p.m.

NEW BROCKTON METH-ODIST

Dr. Craig Bailey, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:30 p.m.

NEW CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Terry Godwin, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Bible Study ... 5:00 p.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet ... 6:00 p.m.

NEW EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

Randall Pearson, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet ... 6:00 p.m.

NEW GLORIOUS CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST

James Starks Jr., Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Bib. Stud. Wed. ... 6:30 p.m.

NEW HAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet ... 6:30 p.m.

OAK GROVE BAPT. CHURCH

Julian Mitchell, Pastor
1st, 4th Sun. Morn.
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.

OLD TABERNACLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Lee Jones, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.

PERDUE ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 7:00 p.m.

PINEY GROVE ASSEMBLY OF GOD - SAMSON

Terry McCrummen, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship ... 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday Evening ... 7:00 p.m.

PRATSE & GLORY WORSHIP CENTER

Roy L. Turner, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 6:30 p.m.

ROCKY HEAD M.B. CHURCH

A. R. Williams, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:30 a.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:00 p.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays

ROETON BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet ... 7:00 p.m.

SHADY GROVE AME

James Boots, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Praise Service Mon 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study ... 6:00 p.m.

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH

C.P. Davis, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service ... 6:00 p.m.

VANDERBILT HOLINESS CHURCH

Donald Mills, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service ... 6:00 p.m.

VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH

Shayne Allen, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:45 p.m.
Wed. Worship ... 7:00 p.m.

VICTORY TABERNACLE

Ruby Lawson, Pastor
Morn. Worship ... 10:30 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet ... 7:00 p.m.

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

Ken Wilson, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 10:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet ... 6:30 p.m.

WHITEWATER BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet ... 6:30 p.m.

WISE MILL ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Kenneth Hagler, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service ... 7:00 p.m.

WOODLAND GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Dennis Marler, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:30 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Meet ... 7:00 p.m.

WOOTEN CHAPEL ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH

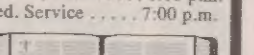
Mike Medley, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 5:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 7:00 p.m.

ZION CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Cary Mauden, Pastor
Sunday School ... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.

ZOAR COMMUNITY CHURCH

John Isaacs, Pastor
Sunday School ... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship ... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Service ... 6:00 p.m.
Wed. Service ... 7:00 p.m.



LIFESTYLES

Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama announces Jan. 25th meeting

There will be a tribal meeting for the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama on Saturday, Jan. 25th.

The meeting will begin at 2 p.m. CST and will be held at the Ma-Chis Lower Creek Indian Tribe of Alabama, 64 Private Road 1312, Elba (GPS directions are: 2950 County Road 377 Elba, Alabama 36323).

The subject of the meeting will be Census 2020, grants, scholarships and federal recognition.

All Tribe members are encouraged to attend.

Republican Women of Coffee County to meet Wednesday, Jan. 15, in Enterprise

The Republican Women of Coffee County will meet Wednesday, Jan. 15, at 11 a.m., at the Enterprise Country Club.

The program will be a Congressional District 2 Representative Candidate Forum.

Social time begins at 11 a.m. and a \$12 optional buffet opens at 11:20. The pro-

gram begins at approximately 11:50.

The public is invited to attend, but reservations are necessary in order to ensure adequate seating and food. Call Jan at 334-494-3763 or email rwccreservations@gmail.com.

Indicate whether or not planning to eat.

New federal law raises minimum age for tobacco purchases to 21

On December 20, 2019, President Donald Trump signed legislation to raise the federal minimum age of sale of tobacco products from 18 to 21 years.

It is now illegal for retailers to sell any tobacco products, including cigarettes, cigars and e-cigarettes, to anyone under the age of 21.

Prior to this change, the minimum age to buy tobacco products in Alabama was 19.

Retailers with questions about the new requirements can contact the Center for Tobacco Products Office of Small Business Assistance at 1-877-287-1373, or via email at smallbiz.tobacco@fda.hhs.gov, for help. Further resources on regulations surrounding the retail sale of tobacco products can be

found at <https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/compliance-enforcement-training/retail-sales-tobacco-products>.

Alabama Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris said he supports the increase in the buying age.

"Most people who smoke start before they turn 21, and adolescent brains are especially susceptible to nicotine addiction," he said. "We hope this change will help reduce the habit, since tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease, disability, and death in the United States."

Smoking kills more than 8,600 adults in Alabama each year. Annually, the state spends more than \$1.88 billion in health care costs directly caused by smoking.

Benefit concert set for Jan. 23rd in Andalusia to fund scholarship

Three bands are joining a benefit concert to raise funds for a memorial scholarship honoring LBW Community College student and Ensemble member Sierra Newman, who lost her life in a vehicle accident in November 2019.

The concert is 6:30-8 p.m., Jan. 23, 2019, in the Martha and Dixon Solon Theater for the Performing Arts on the LBWCC Andalusia campus, and features performances by members of the LBWCC Ensemble and Yachtfather, both of which Sierra was a member. Also joining the concert is JnH, a singer-songwriter duo from Highland Home and Fort Deposit.

"This is an event coordinated by family, friends, and fellow LBWCC Ensemble students as a way to honor Sierra's loving spirit and her contributions to the world through music," said Dr. Arlene Davis, LBWCC associate dean of institutional advancement. "All

proceeds from this event will be used to create a scholarship in memory of Sierra Newman through the LBWCC Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization."

The LBWCC Ensemble features students with various musical instruments and vocals with choreographed performances. Sierra Newman was a sophomore on trumpet in the Ensemble and her death made a huge impact on all members of the Ensemble, who now want to remember her with this benefit concert, said Johnny Brewer, Ensemble director.

The Yachtfather Band is composed of Andalusia-area musicians, including Scott Rogers, Mark Rudd, Travis Day, Richard Butts, Tripp Bass, and Johnny Brewer. Newman also performed with this band during the summer JulyJamz through the Andalusia Chamber of Commerce. The band features a form of

as the alternate. The term for the current Alabama board member and alternate expires Dec. 31, 2020.

USDA requires two nominees from each state for each position of member and alternate. The National Peanut Board will submit Alabama's slate of nominees to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, who makes the appointments.

The National Peanut Board encourages inclusion of persons of any race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation and marital or family status. NPB encourages all persons who qualify as peanut producers to attend the meeting and run for nomination.

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Arts Alliance brings Masters of Soul to Enterprise on Jan. 16th

The Coffee County Arts Alliance and Center Drugs & Home Health will present Masters of Soul – A Motown Music Review on Thursday, Jan. 16, at the Enterprise High School Performing Arts Center at 7 p.m.

In the early 60's some of the most iconic names in the history of popular music were discovered in the Motor City of Detroit, Mich., better known, simply, as MOTOWN. MASTERS OF SOUL is a celebration of these artists, their music and style. The show features stylishly costumed fully choreographed tributes to both male and female groups backed by a live band. Hear the big hits of The Temptations, Gladys Knight & the Pips, Marvin Gaye & Tammi Terrell, Smokey Robinson & the Miracles, the Four Tops, Diana Ross & The Supremes, The Jackson Five, Martha Reeves & The Vandellas, Barry White, Stevie Wonder and the Commodores.

The 2019-2020 season is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Emmett T. Brunson. The Platinum Corporate Sponsor for this performance is the City of Enterprise.



terprise. For season and individual tickets or information, visit the website at www.CoffeeCountyArtsAlliance.com or call 334.406.2787.

Tickets available at these locations: David's Westgate Beauty Salon • 334-347-4247 • Enterprise Redbrick Pizza (next to Publix) •

334-475-2156 • Enterprise MWR Central – Soldier Service Center • 334-255-2997 • Ft Rucker Scrubs 101 (behind Atlanta Bread Co) • 334-671-9101 • Dothan Individual ticket prices: Purchased in advance: \$30 for adults, \$10 for students; or Purchased at the event: \$35 for adults, \$10 for students

WCC in Dothan announces honor students for fall

Wallace Community College recently announced the President's and Dean's lists for fall term 2019.

Students awarded to the President's list must have completed a minimum of 12 semester hours with a grade point average of 4.0. Eligibility for the Dean's list is based on a GPA of 3.5 or higher, with a minimum of 12 semester hours.

Fall 2019 President's list are: Elba: Rebekah Florence Allen; and New Brockton: Colin Andrew Watkins

Fall 2019 Dean's list are: Elba: Laura Beth Allen and Riley Nicole Boothe Jack; Turner Brooklyn Norris; New Brockton: Taylor Lynn Hataway and Kenneth Thomas Hoover II.

Scale Back Alabama kicks off 2020 campaign

The beginning of a new year is a perfect time to commit or re-commit to a healthier lifestyle.

This year, Scale Back Alabama, the state's largest weight loss and physical activity challenge, will encourage participants to "See Healthier, Be Healthier," as they develop healthy habits and lose weight.

This year's challenge begins with weigh-in week, January 20-26. It's free, and participants must be at least 18 years of age and live or work in Alabama.

At the end of the challenge, those who weigh-out during the week of April 6-12 and succeed in losing at least 10 pounds have a chance to win cash prizes. Teams are comprised of two people (no more, no less).

It is easy to register a two-person team:

- Visit scalebackalabama.com/join (only one registration per team of two).

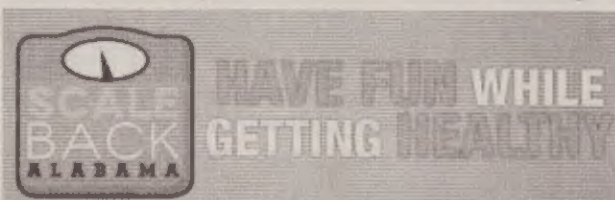
- If possible, print your registration confirmation page.

- Visit an official public weigh-in location during the week of January 20-26 (bring registration confirmation with you).

- Important: Search for public weigh-in sites at scalebackalabama.com/site. Weigh-in sites are still being added, so check back if there is not currently a weigh-in site in your county.

Prizes

- Team prizes (if both team members lose 10 pounds) – Three teams are drawn to win \$1,000 per team member; three teams are drawn to win \$500 per team member; and three teams are drawn to win \$250 per team member.
- Individual prizes (if a



team member loses 10 pounds, but his or her teammate does not) – 40 individuals are drawn to win \$100 each.

- The final event and cash prize drawing will be held April 21.

Facts about Scale Back Alabama:

- Inaugural contest started in January 2007
- Now in its 14th consecutive year

- Cumulative number of pounds lost statewide: 1.4 million

- Cumulative number of participants statewide: 353,434

- Why? Although our

All seniors age 60 and older encouraged to join fun at Elba Senior Citizens Center

The Elba Senior Citizens Center encourages all seniors – age 60 and older – to join the center for lots of fun, activities and more.

Along with nutritious meals 5-days-per-week, the director works with seniors to help them apply for several programs they may qualify for, including: Farmers Market Vouchers, HRDC- Energy Assistance, Food Assistance, Medicaid Waiver, Senior Rx Program, Medicare Savings Program, etc. A senior must be an active participant at the Elba Senior center for the director to sign up for programs that they may qualify for to receive assistance.

To become a center participant, attendance is not based on income. This is a social place to come have fun and find or make new friends. If interested in joining the center, stop by or call 897-3019. The Elba Senior Citizens Center is located at 304 N. Factory Ave., Elba. Also, seniors age 60 and older that cannot come to the center may qualify for meals being brought to home. Contact Donna Falls, Elba Senior Center director, for more information.

Clark Cinemas

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INFO 347-2531

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Lifestyles News is Due on Monday!

1 OUT OF 10 ELDERLY PERSONS AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES ARE BEING: Abused, Neglected or Exploited

If you suspect this is happening to someone you know, please report it to Adult Protective Services by contacting your local DHR office or calling the ADULT ABUSE HOTLINE at 1-800-458-7214

HELP STOP THE ABUSE IF YOU SEE IT, REPORT IT



There's no excuse for ELDER ABUSE



*This project was supported by Subgrant #16-WA-0108 awarded by the Law Enforcement/Traffic Safety Division of ADECA and the U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication/program/insertion are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect those of the U.S. Department of Justice.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Elba Clipper

P.O. Box 677 Elba, AL 36323

TO PLACE AN AD

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FAX 334-897-3434

e-mail clipper@troycable.net

DEADLINE

The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear. We reserve the right to edit

or refuse any ad at any time

ERRORS

We strive to prevent errors in your ad, but any corrections necessary must be made immediately after first publication to insure proper credit.

PAYMENT

is by cash, check, credit card or 30-day charge with approved credit.

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space. \$152,000. Text

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12/19/4tpd

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IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA ELBA DIVISION

In Re: The Adoption by CHEQUITA WALKER,

PC-2019-082

NOTICE OF PUBLICA-TION

To: Re'Nece La'Shae Parnell:

You are hereby notified that a Petition to Adopt has been filed by Chequita Walker in the Probate of Coffee County, Alabama, (Elba Division) to adopt the minor child, J. J. W. You are required to appear and plead to or answer the same within (10) days of the last publication, which will be the 9th day of January 2020. This matter is for hearing on the 30th day of January 2020 at 10:00 a.m., in the

Coffee County Probate Office, in Elba, Alabama. This the 20th day of December 2019. /s/ Steven E. Blair

Steven E. Blair
Probate Judge
Coffee County, Alabama
12/26-1/2&9-chg

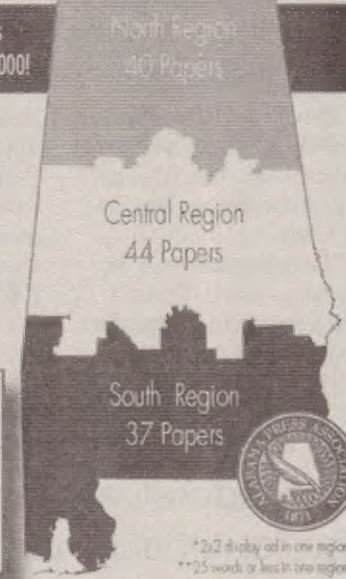
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*25 words or less in one region
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HELP WANTED

The Coffee County Board of Education is seeking applications for the following certificated positions:

Reading Specialist @

New Brockton Elementary School

Elementary Teacher @ Zion Chapel School

Applications are accepted through January 13, 2020 or until the positions are filled. To be considered for employment completion of an on-line application is required. To access additional information regarding these vacancies or to access the on-line application please visit: www.coffeecountyschools.org or www.alsde.edu/TeachInAlabama

EOE-The Coffee County Board of Education is an E-Verify Employer

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IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF

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The employee patrols a designated section of the city on foot or in patrol car. Responds to calls. Conducts preliminary investigation and makes arrests. Serves warrants and subpoenas. Testifies in court. Provides traffic control and assistance. Performs other police related duties as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications:

Must be 21 years of age. Must possess a high school diploma as approved or recognized by the Alabama State Department of Education and successfully complete a Basic Abilities Test as required by APOST or possess an associate's degree or higher. Must not have any felony convictions as an adult. Must not be prohibited by state or federal law to own, possess or carry a firearm including a pistol, rifle or shotgun. Must be a U.S. citizen. Must be honorably discharged if the applicant served in the armed forces. Must possess a valid driver's license.

Starting Date:

December 27th, 2019

Closing Date:

January 10th, 2020

For those that meet the minimum qualifications, a Physical Ability/Agility test will be given after the closing date on January 16th at 9AM. Written Exam will follow at 1:00PM. Candidates will be notified by e-mail once the position closes.

To Apply, visit: www.enterprisecal.gov

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DECEMBER 27TH, 2019

CLOSING DATE:

JANUARY 10TH, 2020

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ENTERPRISE, AL.

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SPORTS NEWS



WFF Rut Map helps hunters determine likely dates of whitetail breeding activity

By David Rainer,
Alabama Department of
Conservation and Natural
Resources

Depending on where they pursue white-tailed deer, hunters in Alabama may be experiencing a wide range of deer breeding activity from pre-rut, and peak rut to post-rut.

Studies by wildlife professionals indicate that rutting activity is most closely associated with the heritage of the deer in a particular area. The diversity of breeding activity, known as the rut, is a result of stocking efforts early in the 20th century, when deer populations in Alabama were in dire straits. Overharvest and a lack of game management had isolated deer to pockets around the state, mainly in southwest Alabama.

Restocking efforts included trapping and relocating deer from southwest Alabama, mainly from the Clarke County area, as well as bringing in deer from other parts of the United States. Deer were transported from Arkansas, Georgia, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas and Wisconsin.

For the most part, the transplanted deer maintained their native rutting activity, which means Alabama hunters can hunt the rut in one part of the state or another for most of deer season.

The Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) Division has developed a resource that provides a quick guide for expected rutting activity in your particular area. The Alabama Deer Rut Map, available at www.outdoor-alabama.com/sites/default/files/Hunting/Deer%20Hunting/2019%20Alabama%20WFF%20Deer%20Rut%20Map.pdf provides a user-friendly way to find the timetable for rutting activity around the state.

WFF Director Chuck Sykes said the rut map was produced by WFF staff under the direction of Deer Program Coordinator Chris Cook and Assistant Wildlife Chief Amy Silvano.

"The map is based on historic stocking information, the herd health assessment we do in the spring and our fetal collections," Sykes said. "Basically, you can look at that map, and, unlike most other states, we have multiple ruts based on our historic stocking. In Alabama, you can hunt the rut in November, December, January and February."

Sykes said that provides Alabama hunters a unique opportunity to hunt the rut for most of deer season if they follow the map and are willing to travel to different parts of the state. Although hunters may have their own definition of the

rut, whether it's building scrapes or bucks chasing does, Sykes said the map is based on fetal studies that pinpoint when the does were actually bred.

"That map corresponds with a ton of public hunting land," he said. "Some of the WMAs (wildlife management areas) have bonus bucks where it doesn't count against your state three-buck limit. Some of the WMAs that have that early rut will actually have a couple of days of gun season before regular gun season comes in. There's a lot of opportunity for someone."

Sykes has a perfect example of one location where deer rutted at different times on the same piece of property. Before he became WFF Director, Sykes managed a hunting plantation in Lee County on the Georgia border.

"On one piece of the property, the deer had come over from Georgia and rutted the first week of December," he said. "Across the road on the other side of the property, it was the traditional, late-rut Alabama deer. So you could hunt the peak rut on that one 5,000-acre piece of property multiple times. You had the rut the first week of December. Then the does that didn't get bred during that first cycle came back in during the first 10 days of January. Then the Alabama deer kicked in about the 15th to 20th of January. Even before the February extension, we could actually hunt three different phases of the rut on that one piece of property."

Alabama hunters still have the opportunity to have their harvested deer sampled at locations around the state. WFF has set up freezers in strategic locations to accept the samples. Visit <https://www.outdoor-alabama.com/cwd-sampling> for a list of freezer locations.

The instructions to have the animal tested are:

To prepare the sample for drop off at one of the self-service locations, hunters must first remove the deer's head leaving 4-6 inches of neck attached.

Once the head is removed, place it in the provided plastic bag and tie it closed. For bucks, antlers can be removed at the base of each antler or by removing the skull plate before bagging the head.

Complete all sections of the Biological Sample Tag and attach it to the bag with a zip tie.

Remove and retain the bottom receipt portion of the Biological Sample Tag before placing the bagged head in the freezer.

Hunters will receive the results of the samples within three to four weeks.

Zion Chapel anglers fish Lay Lake in final tourney for 2019

The Zion Chapel Bass Team [ZCBT] closed out the 2019 year in a tournament Saturday, Dec. 14, at Lay Lake, located 35-minutes south of Birmingham, Ala.

While some anglers enjoy hunting, attending football games or watching football on TV, there are those anglers who enjoy taking advantage of fishing unpressured bass this time of year. The ZCBT is a group who enjoys fishing any time they have the opportunity.

Mark Daniels, winner of the Bass Federation National Championship in 2013, says that in Alabama bass fishing is good all year long. The ZCBT members feel the same way as this champion. Thus, they headed to Lay Lake to participate in the Airport Marine Trail in the dead of winter. This was their first time fishing Lay Lake.

Since this is a trail they fish for practice, they decided to at their November club meeting to change things up, and they drew names to fish with different partners. They were all successful.

Team Lee/Dowdy had the biggest bag on the ZCBT weighing in 12.9 pounds. Over 100 boats entered the tournament.

Just like in most sports, accidents will happen. Unfortunately, the Jasper Vikings Fishing Team hit a stump while traveling on the water. One of the anglers was thrown from the boat, but he was wearing his PFD and so was his partner. The captain was wearing his life vest and had the kill switch on as well. This is why safety is stressed at every event.

For a number of anglers who witnessed the accident, winning the tournament was no longer their priority. They put their fishing on hold to help these anglers who were in a stressful situation. Thankfully no one was seriously injured. One angler suffered a concussion, and his partner and the captain incurred only a few bumps and bruises.

This is one reason safety precautions and pre-fishing are important. The pre-fishing gives the captain and the anglers an opportunity to explore the lake and know where to use caution.

The Zion Chapel Bass Team completed the Wiregrass Student Angler Trail in November of 2019. On February 15, 2020, they will be at Lake Eufaula fishing the Alabama BASS Nation High School - Tiger Trail.

Import ban vital to prevent spread of CWD

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) remind hunters that it is illegal to import whole carcasses and certain body parts of any species of deer into either state.

The import ban on deer in Alabama and Tennessee is part of a larger effort throughout the country to prevent the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) - a fatal neurological disease of white-tailed deer and other deer species, including mule deer, elk and moose.

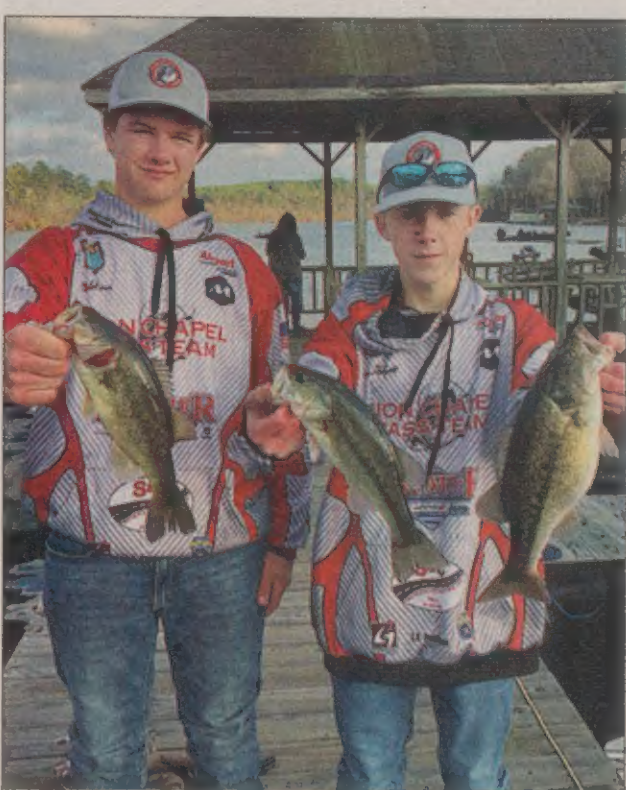
"Working closely with our counterparts in neighboring states is one of the best ways we can prevent the spread of CWD," said Chris Blankenship, ADCNR Commissioner. "It is vital to the health of our deer herd that out-of-state hunters know and follow the hunting regulations in both the state in which they live and the state in which they plan to hunt."

Under the import bans, no person may import, transport, or possess a carcass or body part from any species of deer harvested anywhere outside of either state without properly processing it before bringing it home.

Importation of the following is allowed in both Alabama and Tennessee: deer meat that has been completely deboned; cleaned skull plates with attached antlers, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; raw capes, if no visible brain or spinal cord tissue is present; upper canine teeth, if no root structure or other soft tissue is present; and finished taxidermy products or tanned hides. Velvet antlers are illegal to import into



Team Lee/Dowdy had the biggest bag for the Zion Chapel anglers at Lay Lake. Pictured here is Trevor Lee, Taylor Renfro - boat captain, and Kevin Dowdy



Kaleb Devos and Avery Padgett with their catch



Landon Jacobs and Ethan Young with their catch



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Sally Bane, City Clerk

HPV VACCINE FACTS:



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Remove and retain the bottom receipt portion of the Biological Sample Tag before placing the bagged head in the freezer.

Hunters will receive the results of the samples within three to four weeks.

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SPORTS NEWS

Views From
The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

I am still waiting for our grandson Lawson to play with all the toys he got for Christmas, but can state without a doubt that he has mastered many of the video games he got for his variety of game systems. Maybe when the weather calms down a little he can get outside and ride his bike, learn to shoot his archery bow and try to beat his 'ole granddaddy in basketball. There should never be a dull moment!

For what it is worth....

*** *The high school basketball season will continue* this week with all the teams in the area jumping into area competition. In boys action, the Elba Tigers will carry a 5-game losing streak into match-ups against Kinston, Florala and Brantley, and while the Tigers should be able to handle Kinston, Florala and Brantley are both loaded and have played a much more busy schedule than the Tigers. Over on the girls' side, the Lady Tigers have been busy since the start of the season and will bring a 10-5 record into area play. Elba has played against 15 different teams on the court to help prepare for the area schedule, and even though all three area opponents are enjoying winning seasons, the Lady Tigers appear to be the early favorite to claim the title.

*** *The basketball season is back in full swing* for the other teams in the area and so far it has been quite a season. In boys play, Brantley is off to one of its best starts in years and already has its fans talking about a trip to Birmingham, while Zion Chapel is off to a fast start and for the first time in quite a while will carry a winning record into the new year. Kinston managed only one win prior to the holiday break, but did begin to improve on a nightly basis, and New Brockton will carry two wins into the new year and may just be a team to keep an eye on in the weeks ahead. Over with the girls, Brantley hasn't been as dominating as in years past, but has one of the state's top young players in Gabby Perkins and is still a force on the court, while Kinston has turned into a quality team in all areas and is also a team to watch in area play. Zion Chapel and New Brockton have both struggled for much of the season, but are in the same area, and that means anything can happen.

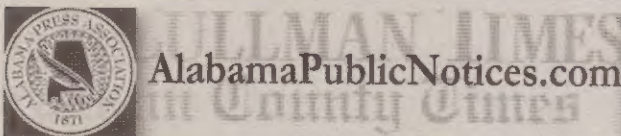
*** *I watched a little bit of a lot of bowl games* and am convinced that many of the teams would have been happier sitting at home resting than practicing for three extra weeks just to play in a game that meant nothing. It was obvious which teams wanted to be playing and which ones didn't. However, ESPN made millions of dollars in the commercials that lasted almost as long as the games, and spread the bowl season out to allow it to televise almost every game. The playoffs have all but killed the bowl games, and there are way too many games over too long a period of time. ESPN may be the only real winner when the teams add up the losses for trips across the country.

*** *In closing...* years ago a college football player had to have a certain mark on his college entrance exams to make it into college and then had to maintain his grades to stay eligible. While some of that may not have changed, a new must to be able to play college football appears to include having at least one arm covered in tattoos. I watched quite a few bowl games and saw very few players that didn't have their arms, and many times their necks, covered in tattoos. I guess the real question is whether or not the players headed to the tattoo parlor after they got to college, or if Mom and Dad let their teenage sons get inked while they were still at the house. Just seems a little crazy to me!

High School
BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Thursday, Jan. 9 New Brockton at Pleasant Home	Monday, Jan. 13 Elba at Brantley Ariton at New Brockton
Friday, Jan. 10 Florala at Elba Brantley at Kinston New Brockton at Zion Chapel	Tuesday, Jan. 14 Kinston at Florala New Brockton at Samson Goshen at Zion Chapel
Saturday, Jan. 11 Opp at Elba Brantley at Luverne	Thursday, Jan. 16 Elba at Kinston Goshen at New Brockton Red Level at Zion Chapel

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DEZMION ROBERSON

Joins four area players

Dezmion Roberson named 'All-State'

The Alabama Sports Writers Association announced its 2019 'All-State' high school football selections during the holidays and included on the honored list was Elba Tiger standout Dezmion Roberson, as well as three Brantley Bulldogs and one player from the New Brockton Gamecocks.

Dezmion Roberson, an early signee with Western Kentucky, made a total of 149 tackles during the 2019 season, an average of 12.4 tackles per game, to make first team 1A All-State honors. The total included 62 solo stops, seven tackles for losses, six quarterback sacks, one interception for a touchdown and one tackle for a safety.

The trio of Brantley Bulldogs named to the 1A All-State first team included Tucker Kilcrease, Kenuwyn Dixon and Carson Jones.

Kilcrease, a 6-1, 175, sophomore, quarterback, passed for 2,793 yards in 13 games, an average of 214.8 yards per game, and threw for 40 touchdowns, with only one interception. He completed 167 of 239 passes, didn't throw an interception in his last 178 passes, and also rushed for 526 yards and seven touchdowns on 81 carries, an average of 405 yards per game and 6.5 yards per carry.

Dixon, a 5-10, 170, junior, athlete, caught 47 passes for 784 yards and six touchdowns, an average of 60.3 yards per game. He rushed for 277 yards and six touchdowns on 24 carries, an average of 11.5 yards per carry, and also returned 27 kickoffs for 794 yards and four touchdowns. Overall, Dixon had 1,855 yards of total offense with 16 touchdowns.

Jones, a 6-2, 250, junior, linebacker, made 107 tackles in 13 games, with 27 solo stops, 16 tackles for losses and four quarterback sacks. He also recorded two interceptions and two forced fumbles.

Named to the 2A All-State first team was New Brockton Gamecock Brandon McCoy. A 6-2, 228, senior, defensive lineman, McCoy recorded 64 tackles, including 26 tackles for losses, nine quarterback sacks, and one fumble recovery

Former Elba Tiger standout

Brosnan Cooks named 'player of the week'

Former Elba Tiger and L.B. Wallace Community College basketball standout Brosnan Cooks was recently named the American Southwest Conference 'Player of the Week' for his performances for the Belhaven Blazers, of Jackson, Mississippi, on the court against Mississippi University and Covenant College.

Cooks scored 15 points, and grabbed 5 rebounds in the win over Mississippi University, and capped that performance against Covenant College when he exploded for 42 points, and connected on 69.6 percent of his shots from the floor, including 57.1 percent from behind the arc. The 42-point performance placed Cooks in third place all-time in the Belhaven record books.

For the season, the 6-5, 210, senior guard, has averaged 18.1 points per game, 7.6 rebounds per game and 4.7 assists per game. He has connected on 74 percent of his shots from the free throw line, 50 percent of his shots from the floor, and 32 percent of his shots from behind the three-point line.



Brosnan Cooks (23) drives to the basket for an easy two-pointer in recent Belhaven Blazer basketball action. Cooks, a former Elba Tiger standout, put his name in the record books recently with a 42-point performance in a Blazer win. Cooks was named conference 'player of the week' for a two-game performance in recent Blazer wins.

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